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Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EA/K:FMISCH:CHG
APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY (SECTO 16106)
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IO - MR BLAKE
S/S : MTANNER
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O R 230109Z OCT 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 251830

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, KS, KN, TH

SUBJECT: KOREA AT 30TH UNGA - LETTER FROM SECRETARY
TO PRIME MINISTER KHUKRIT

1. PLEASE DELIVER FOLLOWING LETTER FROM SECRETARY
TO PRIME MINISTER.

2. BEGIN TEXT: DEAR MR. PRIME MINISTER:
I KNOW THAT AMBASSADOR WHITEHOUSE HAS DISCUSSED WITH YOU
THE QUESTION OF KOREA AT THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

AS AMBASSADOR WHITEHOUSE EXPLAINED,
THE KOREAN ITEM IS THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE ON THE
UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY AGENDA THIS YEAR AS FAR AS THE
UNITED STATES IS CONCERNED. THE CENTRAL ISSUE OF THE
DEBATE WILL BE ARRANGEMENTS TO MAINTAIN THE PEACE AND
SECURITY OF THE PENINSULA. I RECOGNIZE THAT MANY UN
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MEMBERS BELIEVE - AND THE UNITED STATES AGREES - THAT

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IT IS TIME TO TERMINATE THE UN COMMAND. HOWEVER, THE UNITED STATES WILL NOT ACCEPT ANY PROPOSAL TO TERMINATE THE COMMAND WHICH FAILS TO PROVIDE FOR THE CONTINUING VALIDITY OF THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT, WHICH HAS BEEN OF SUCH IMPORTANCE IN KEEPING THE PEACE ON THE KOREAN

PENINSULA. THE INTERESTS OF THE UNITED STATES IN CONTINUED STABILITY IN THE AREA AND THE INTEREST OF THE WORLD COMMUNITY IN THIS STABILITY MAKE IT ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY THAT THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY TAKE RESPONSIBLE ACTION IN THIS DEBATE.

THE RESOLUTION WHICH THE UNITED STATES HAS JOINED IN COSPONSORING IS DESIGNED TO BE RESPONSIVE TO PREVIOUS UN DECISIONS ON THE KOREAN ISSUE AND TO THE NEEDS FOR MAINTAINING PEACE ON THE PENINSULA. IT PROVIDES FOR TERMINATION OF THE UN COMMAND. IT DOES THIS WITHOUT UPSETTING THE PRINCIPAL MECHANISM FOR MAINTENANCE OF PEACE IN KOREA, THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT OF 1953, BECAUSE IT MAKES CLEAR THAT THE UN COMMAND, AS SIGNATORY TO THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT, CAN BE REPLACED ONLY WHEN A SUB-STITUTE MECHANISM FOR MAINTAINING THE ARMISTICE IS AGREED BY ALL THE PARTIES CONCERNED. THE RESOLUTION RESPONDS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S ENDORSEMENT IN THE CONSENSUS RESOLUTION OF 1973, REAFFIRMED LAST YEAR, OF TALKS BETWEEN SOUTH AND NORTH KOREA BY CALLING FOR A CONFERENCE BETWEEN ALL THE PARTIES CONCERNED WITH THE ARMISTICE WHICH IN-CLUDES SOUTH AND NORTH KOREA, THE UNITED STATES AND THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA. IT FORESEES A CONFERENCE WHICH WOULD FIRST PROVIDE NEW MECHANISMS FOR MAINTAINING THE ARMISTICE BUT WHICH COULD THEN GO ON TO CONSIDER MORE LASTING ARRANGEMENTS FOR REDUCING TENSIONS ON THE PENINSULA.

THE RESOLUTION PRESENTED ON BEHALF OF NORTH KOREA DOES NOT RESPOND TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S PREVIOUS RESOLU-TIONS BECAUSE IT CALLS FOR A PEACE SETTLEMENT BETWEEN THE "REAL PARTIES" WHICH NORTH KOREA IDENTIFIES AS THE UNITED STATES AND NORTH KOREA, EXCLUDING SOUTH KOREA WHICH IS AN ESSENTIAL PARTY TO ANY SUCH AGREEMENT. IT CONFIDENTIAL

CALLS FOR REMOVING THE UN COMMAND WITHOUT ANY PROVISION FOR MAINTAINING THE ARMISTICE MECHANISM WHILE DISCUS-SIONS OF A "PEACE AGREEMENT" PROCEED. THE RESOLUTION CALLS FOR WITHDRAWAL OF FOREIGN TROOPS "UNDER THE UN FLAG" WHICH NORTH KOREA MAKES CLEAR ARE U.S. TROOPS IN KOREA. THESE TROOPS ARE IN KOREA UNDER A U.S.-ROK BILATERAL AGREEMENT AT THE INVITATION OF THE ROK. NORTH KOREA, I NOTE, MAINTAINS TREATIES OF MUTUAL DE-

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FENSE WITH BOTH THE SOVIET UNION AND THE PRC.

THE ALGERIAN RESOLUTION WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO INSTABILITY ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA, IS BLATANTLY ONE-SIDED IN IGNORING THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND INTERFERES IN AN IMPORTANT U.S. SECURITY ARRANGEMENT WITH THE ROK. BE-

CAUSE OF THE VERY SERIOUS CONSIDERATIONS DESCRIBED ABOVE AND OUR CLOSE BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP, I HOPE YOU WILL INSTRUCT YOUR DELEGATION IN NEW YORK TO VOTE AGAINST THIS RESOLUTION.

WARM REGARDS,

HENRY A. KISSINGER.

END TEXT.

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